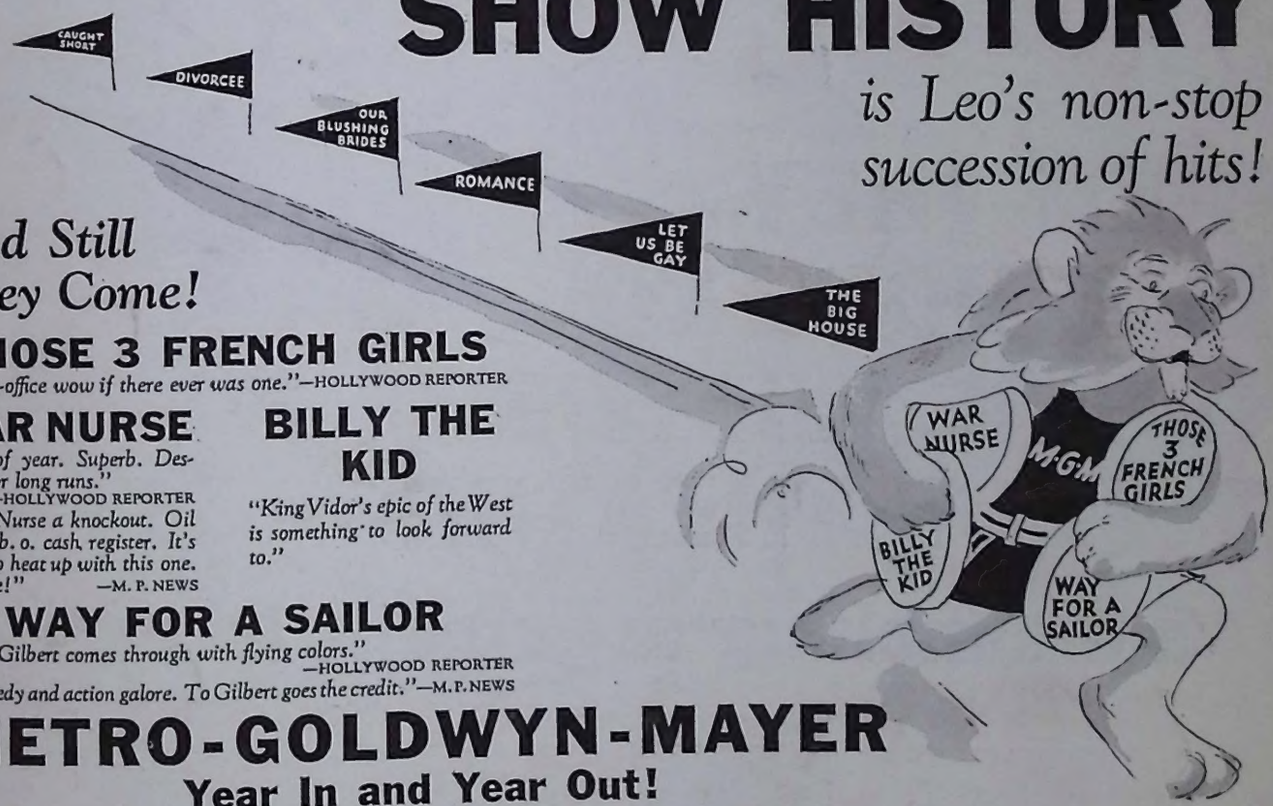
CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

Vol. 22, No. 24 TORONTO 2, CANADA October 11th, 1930

THE LONGEST RUN IN SHOW HISTORY

is Leo's non-stop succession of hits!



And Still They Come!

THOSE 3 FRENCH GIRLS

"A box-office wow if there ever was one."—HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

WAR NURSE

"Best of year. Superb. Destined for long runs."
—HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

"War Nurse a knockout. Oil up the b. o. cash register. It's going to heat up with this one. Surefire!" —M. P. NEWS

BILLY THE KID

"King Vidor's epic of the West is something to look forward to."

WAY FOR A SAILOR

"John Gilbert comes through with flying colors."
—HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

"Comedy and action galore. To Gilbert goes the credit."—M. P. NEWS

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

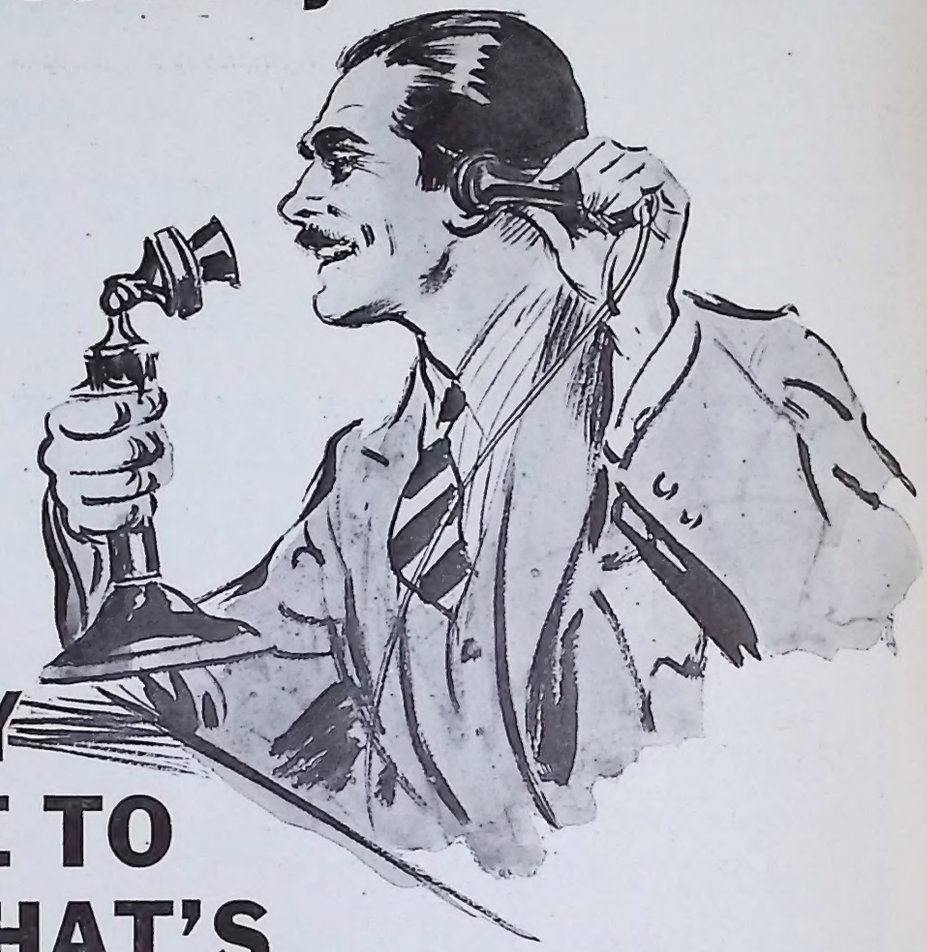
Year In and Year Out!

PUBLISHED BY

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED

259 SPADINA AVENUE, TORONTO 2

"—and in addition to the feature we have a Hal Roach comedy—"



WHEN THEY TELEPHONE TO INQUIRE WHAT'S AT YOUR THEATRE—

the clinching argument is

LAUREL HARDY

CHARLIE CHASE

OUR GANG

THE BOY FRIENDS

HAL ROACH makes 'em
M-G-M releases 'em

Canadian Moving Picture DIGEST

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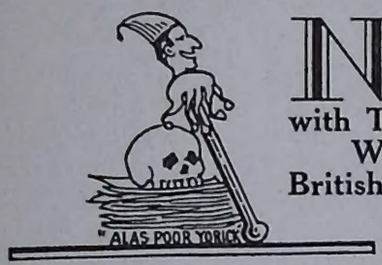
RAY LEWIS
Editor and Managing Director

Vol. 22, No. 24 | TORONTO 2, CANADA | October 11th, 1930

British and Good



NEVER, in the history of Canada, have we had such a British display of advertising, in local newspapers, since The Digest came out of its Swaddling Clothes with The Infant Industry!

Whether the Government Investigation has stirred up a British interest in British films, or whether the theatres are reacting to that old showmanship attitude of imitation, we have not discovered, but following the success of "Atlantic," the British International feature, which Henry Nathanson of Regal Films discovered for Regal, and its showing at the Tivoli, Toronto, the other leading theatres are presenting the British spirit by way of Motion Pictures.

"British and Good" appears to be Toronto's theatre slogan. ..This is the way the press reads—

"Atlantic," "Titanic drama of British heroism" and continues with another heading, "sensational romance of the high seas that is sweeping England like a tidal wave" and still another which reads, "gigantic, huge Atlantic, England's contribution to the great talking pictures of the world."

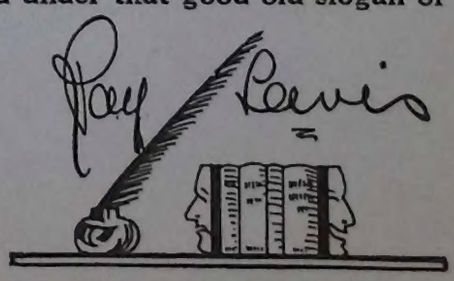
"Atlantic" has played some of the most important key centres across Canada. It came to Toronto last, and evidently has won first place in being widely discussed and praised. All the regulars are telling each other to see "Atlantic," explaining how different it is to other pictures, and reciting various scenes from its story, sufficient indication that it has caught on.

The Digest picked "Atlantic" as a winner when first viewing it in the Fox screening room in Toronto. The Digest told Henry Nathanson that "Atlantic" would register big; and Mr. Nathanson agreed, although he said, "wait until you see 'Loose Ends.'"

The Royal Alexandra has "Balaclava," a Gaumont British. Its heading announces, "The most outstanding picture of the century," and the critics in Toronto announce it as "quite beyond Hollywood's reach." Another line of interest reads, "England's supreme 'Talkie' achievement." It is a big production, excellently produced and photographed, with the punch centralized in the famous charge through the Valley of Death by the "noble six hundred." It will make you sit up and take notice!

And then there is "One Embarrassing Night," adapted from "Rookery Nook," the M-G-M British feature at The Uptown, and last, but not least, Warner Bros. splendid production of "Old English" with George Arliss, advertised as an English star, with an English cast, in an English story.

British and good, looks good to Canada; and under that good old slogan of "Canada First," as introduced by The Right Hon. R. B. Bennett, what is good enough for Canada, is good enough for the Empire, and being made of such stuff, good enough for any man's country!



RAY PRESENTS

RAY LEWIS

THE PERFORMING Right Society is at its old tricks of threatening exhibitors. The Digest has had many letters, all worded in about the same way, and forwarded on by exhibitors.

The threats are worded, "we presume from this that you do not intend to comply with our request that you take out a license permitting you to publicly perform our copyright musical works. It seems therefor that we are left with no alternative, but to take legal proceedings against you." And at the bottom of the page of this same letter we read, "unless we hear from you at once, we shall have to take the steps necessary to commence legal proceedings for satisfaction of our claim."

The exhibitor, who received this letter, writes The Digest stating that The Performing Right Society Ltd., is asking the same amount for a license as this exhibitor is paying for the license to run the show, or theatre. And this exhibitor further states that he can't understand why the small theatres should have so much more expense to cover for operation this year!

ANOTHER letter has this paragraph, "we presume from this that you do not intend to comply with our request that you take out a license permitting you to perform publicly our copyright works. It seems, therefor, that we are left with no alternative but to take legal proceedings against you." The letters speak of the "trifling cost of a license for your premises" and finishes with another threat as follows, "unless we hear from you at once, we shall have to take the steps necessary to commence legal proceedings for the satisfaction of our claim."

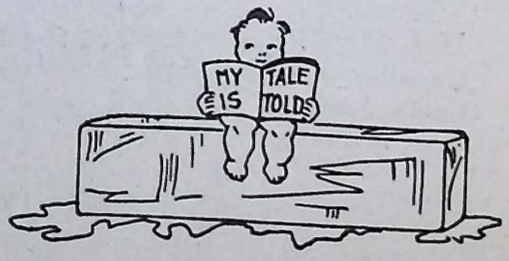
We have another letter from an exhibitor who uses silent films, his music is piano only; and he writes that he does not know whether the music his pianist is using is copyright or not. This exhibitor has sounded the main issue in this Performing Right vs. Exhibitors controversy. Has the Performing Right Society a right to legally tax theatres?

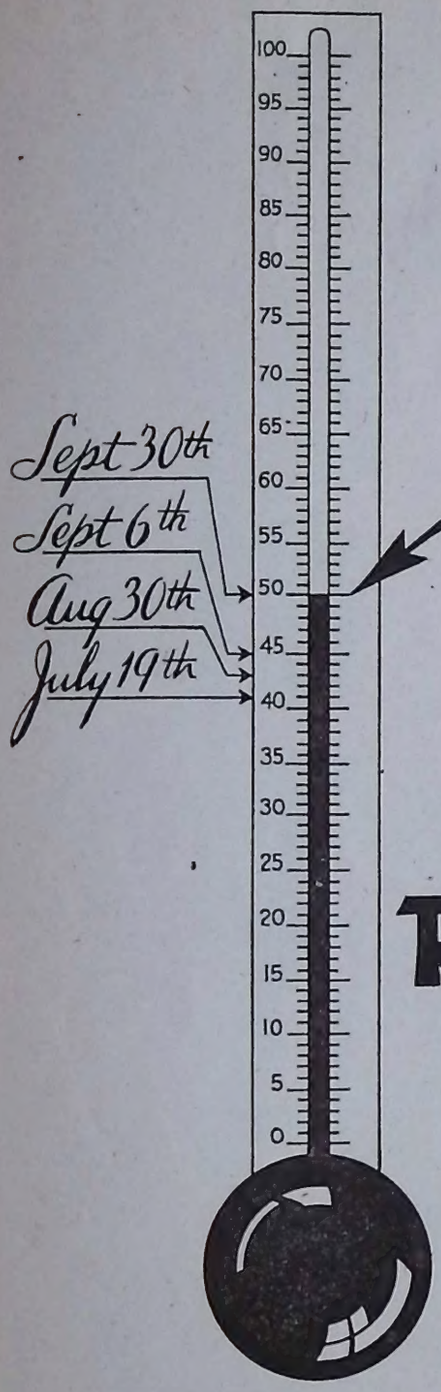
HAS the Performing Right Society the necessary rights from authors and composers to collect a tax on their musical compositions? Has the Performing Right Society duly copyrighted the musical compositions under its control? According to our knowledge this Society has only copyrighted one thousand musical compositions at Ottawa, which would give this society the right to collect on these, but it is claiming copyright privileges for several millions of sheets of music not registered at Ottawa!

Exhibitors are therefor advised to obtain from the Performing Right Society a list of the music which it has copyrighted at Ottawa, that is, those exhibitors, who are using, in addition to picture synchronizations, other music, should follow this proceedure; and be governed accordingly, but to the exhibitors who are utilizing the music synchronized with pictures, which includes songs, etc., The Digest advises these exhibitors that they have already paid for the use of the music which goes with their rental of the film; and that when they rent a Sound film, Sound includes the music.

In conclusion we would advise producers and Distributors to also obtain a list of the music copyrighted at Ottawa, so that they may be aware of the claims of The Performing Right Society in relationship to the music recorded in their films! Personally The Digest feels that the Performing Right Society is trying its old methods of pressure, methods, however, which will prove no more successful in legal proceedure than they were in the legal proceedings which have already taken place in respect to this company and the theatres of the Famous Players, etc.

EXHIBITORS are reminded that The Performing Right Society lost its case and several of its appeals right to the privy council. The big chain theatres have not taken out licenses, neither has the Canadian National Exhibition, the Radio enterprises in Canada; and other institutions, where music is the important factor. Why does not the Performing Right Society go after the Big Fellows with their threats? Test out the legal validity of its claim with these units of entertainment? Shall we answer this question? Because the Little Fellow is always "the goat" through a fear and through a weakness of position which gives him no power. But here is an opportunity to let "nature take its course" as it were. Let this tax collector sue, if the Performing Right Society gets a successful verdict, it establishes a precedent for legal action against the Big Fellows. In that event the Big Fellows will see that the Little Fellow has a proper defense to protect his legal rights!





Now

50

REPLACEMENTS OF UNSATISFACTORY OTHER MAKES

by

Northern Electric
SOUND SYSTEM

The VOICE of ACTION

Western Electric IN U.S.A.

"Fulfills Columbia's Promise!"

The Newspaper of Filmdom — THE Film DAILY — ALL THE NEWS ALL THE TIME

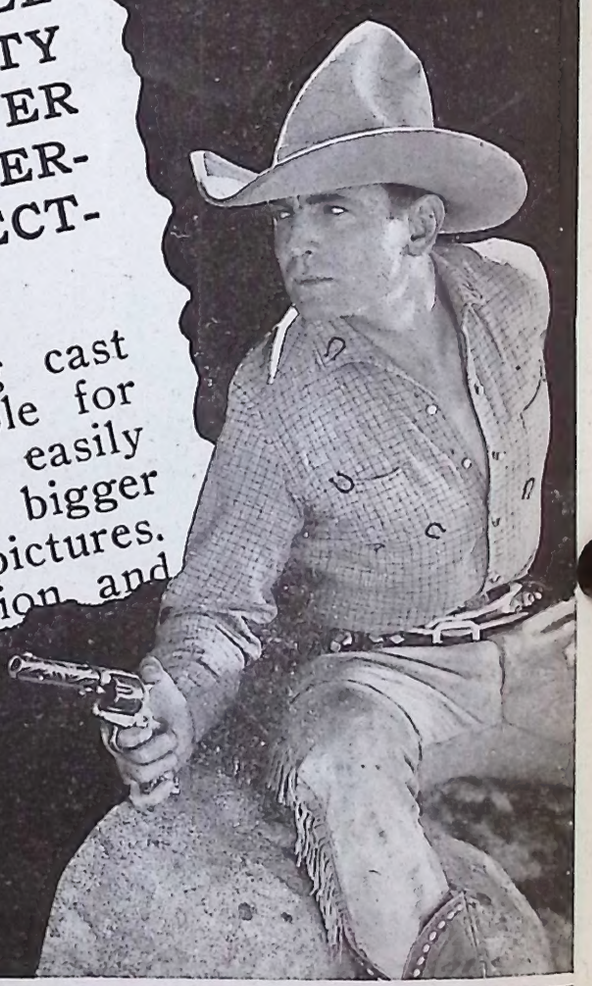
Buck Jones in

"Shadow Ranch"

Columbia *Time, 1 hr., 4 mins.*

TOPNOTCH WESTERN FULL OF FINE ACTION, PLENTY OF THRILLS AND BETTER THAN USUAL HUMAN INTEREST. ACTING AND DIRECTING ABOVE AVERAGE.

Buck Jones, his supporting cast and the technicians responsible for his latest western melodrama easily fulfill Columbia's promise of bigger and better outdoor action pictures. Besides a full quota of action and



COLUMBIA PICTURES — Gems of the Screen

BOOK BUCK JONES *Now!*

Joan Crawford Signs Starring Contract With M-G-M.

AFTER her tremendous success in "Our Blushing Brides" it is not surprising to hear that Joan Crawford has been signed to a new long-term starring contract with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

Miss Crawford came to M-G-M five years ago to do bits after she had appeared as a dancer in several New York musical shows. Her outstanding films include "Paris," "The Taxi Dancer," "West Point," "Our Dancing Daughters," and "Spring Fever." She was made a star following her work in "Our Modern Maidens," and since then has been seen in "Untamed," "Montana Moon" and "Our Blushing Brides."

Miss Crawford was known on the stage as Lucille Le Seur. Through a magazine contest she was christened by the movie public as Joan Crawford and under that name, after a six months drilling in the art of screen acting, was signed to join the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer group of stock actors. Her rise to prominence was rapid for though she only began her screen career in 1925, she became a star three years later.

SHE was born in San Antonio, Texas, and educated at a girls' finishing school in Kansas City. Love of the theatre came to her at an early age. Her father was a theatre owner and she dreamed of the time when she would be old enough to attempt her fortune on the stage. Her parents were opposed to such a career, so Miss Crawford finally left home and went to Chicago to try for a theatrical opening.

Her first stage experience was as a dancer in a revue in that city in 1924. Next she appeared in a Shubert production, "Innocent Eyes" in New York and then was a dancer at the Winter Garden in "The Passing Show." It was there that Harry Rapf of M-G-M discovered her.

Miss Crawford's first picture was "Pretty Ladies," in which she was an extra. Next she was given an important part in "Old Clothes," a Jackie Coogan picture. That she made good is attested to be the fact that she was not only given a contract but was cast in one of the leading roles in "Sally, Irene, and Mary." From then on her rise was rapid.

Canadian fans like Joan. She is graceful and magnetic, and exudes a wholesome personality which Canadians like, in addition to this personal charm she has plenty of ability.

Columbia Pictures Leases Additional Studio Space

IN ORDER to accommodate its extensive schedule for the 1930-1931 season, Columbia Pictures this week took over the Chadwick Studios on a long term lease. The new acquisition is especially ideal inasmuch as the property adjoins the present Columbia Hollywood studios. The Chadwick studios contain a newly sound proofed and ultra modern stage, and an adjoining office building.

The past year has seen Columbia practically double its equipment with the addition of new cutting rooms, projection rooms and the erection of several sound stages. With these added facilities the company's studios are classed among the most efficient on the coast and they also count among their stages. the largest individual stage in any studio in Hollywood. In addition Columbia is one of the largest and best equipped studios in the heart of the film capital.

The inauguration of the new stage took place coincidentally with the shooting of certain sequences for "Madonna of the Streets," the Evelyn Brent feature which is being filmed under the direction of John S. Robertson.

Film Daily Pays Tribute To British "Atlantic"

"British Sea Epic Packs Terrific Wallop With Great Drama and Acting Realism Plus. A Mop-Up for Thrills."

"Probably the most realistic sea spectacle ever filmed. British International has come through with a darb that should goal 'em wherever they like their drama realistic, and with guts. This one packs a tremendous wallop from start to finish. The production values are there plenty, direction is expert, and the large cast score individual triumphs. It's a pleasure to hand it to a British production at last. Shows an ocean liner struck by an iceberg, and then the mad scramble for the lifeboats, when the order are given: "Women and children first!" Meanwhile the truth that the boat is really sinking is kept from all hands. Only one or two men in the first cabin know the truth. Gradually the rest learn, and the way the different characters react to their fate is worked out beautifully in a series of individual character studies. Ends tragically with the men and crew sinking, but delicately handled. Properly exploited, should mop up."

Capitol, Windsor, Award of Merit

D. E. Bankart, Manager of the News Bureau of the Northern Electric Company states that he has found a really modest Theatre Manager, in the person of Mr. E. W. Gilmore, Manager of the Capitol Theatres in Windsor, Ont. The Exhibitors' Herald World presented the Capitol with their Award of Merit for high quality of sound reproduction last July and no one heard about it until a check up was made to locate all the houses which have been granted this Award. Congratulations, Mr. Gilmore, we've all heard about the quality at the Capitol.

Another award for equipment merit has been bestowed upon the new Royal Theatre at North Bay, Ontario, which was opened last year with Northern Electric Sound Equipment. The award is from the Exhibitors' Herald World Award of Merit for the quality of sound reproduction in that theatre. The presentation took place at the evening performance on September 30th with due pomp and circumstance.

"The Big Trail" Has World Premiere

"THE BIG TRAIL," the Fox Movietone epic of the pioneer west had its world premiere recently, at Graumon's Theatre in Los Angeles. The picture received the unanimous approval of the public and critics alike in an ovation that often broke out spontaneously during the running of the picture.

Celebrities of the motion picture colony vied with officials in public life and members of society to be the first to see this great picture. They were forced to struggle through a dense throng, estimated at several thousands, blocking traffic on Hollywood Boulevard, all anxious to attend the opening which has created more interest than any picture yet made by the Fox Film Corporation.

Four Northern Electric Installations for October

As we go to press we learn that the Belsize, Toronto; the Beacon, Winnipeg; the Empire, Jonquiere, Quebec; and Plaza, Belmont, Rosemount in Montreal, and Columbia, St. Thomas, are all to be equipped this month with Northern Electric Sound Systems. The latter four replacing other equipment already installed.

Dominion Fire Prevention Association Convention, Ottawa

Film exchange conditions in Canada were generally discussed at the annual convention of the Dominion Fire Prevention Association at Ottawa, September 30, a feature being the report of Col. J. A. Cooper of Toronto, president of the Motion Picture Distributors of Canada, who outlined the steps that had been taken to eliminate risks in various cities. These included new film buildings at Montreal, Ottawa and Calgary and the erection of a large addition to the film building in Toronto. Col. Cooper recommended the standardization of film exchange regulations and the bringing of all schools and halls where pictures were being shown under the rules governing theatres.

A startling revelation was made by Fire Marshall McLelland of St. John, N.B., regarding the film exchange there which, he admitted, were located on the floors of a building beneath a business college. A new film building would be erected within a year, however.

Fire Marshal J. A. Thomas of Vancouver declared that strong pressure had been brought to bear upon the British Columbia Government to lower projection standards and he criticized exhibitors for trying to bring men off the streets to take charge of projection machines.

Tom Moore, Ottawa, President of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress, criticized the Ontario Government for the manner in which the Government's own films were stored in the Parliament Buildings at Toronto. J. Grove Smith, Ottawa, Dominion Fire Commissioner, congratulated Col. Cooper and his associates for the improvements in film exchange conditions.

Others who took part in the discussion included A. S. Dickinson, Fire Prevention Officer of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors Association, New York; Eugene Crystal, Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, and E. H. Woodsworth, Canadian Kodak Company, Toronto.

I. J. Roher is the proprietor of the Excellent Film Exchange, 4 Dundas Street East, Toronto, which has just secured Canadian distribution rights for releases of the Big Four Film Corp., New York. The Excellent Film Exchange has been in operation for a year and previously had specialized in short subjects.

Universal Buys "Seed"

Another best seller is going in the movies. This time it is "Seed," by Charles G. Norris. Universal has purchased it and already Carl Laemmle, Jr., is making preparations for adapting it to an important and outstanding moving pciture. "Seed," in the opinion of the young general manager of Universal City, has all of the elements of success for a talking picture. In addition, its startling nature and utter frankness as a novel are certain to bring its story before a tremendous number of readers during its present popularity as a leading literary output of Doubleday-Doran.

Although Charles G. Norris' novels have always been in the class of big sellers, their material has seldom lent them to the silent picture technique. With the advent of sound in pictures, the possibilities of Charles G. Norris have been very greatly enhanced. "Seed," from the standpoint of talking picture technique, is the most available and effective novel he has ever written.

Charles G. Norris is a member of a famous literary family. His wife is Kathleen Norris, and his brother is the late Frank Norris, the author of "The Pit," "Greed," and a number of other remembered novels. Charles G. Norris is the author of "Brass," "Zelda Marsh," "Salt," "Pig Iron" and "Bread."

The Gayety Theatre, Bell Island, Newfoundland, is going over to Sound, with a Northern Electric equipment which is expected to be ready on October 31st.

FOR SALE

Pacent Disc Equipment in perfect working order, now in operation at the National Theatre, Toronto. An ideal Equipment for a small house. Can be seen and heard any time at the National Theatre. Write above Theatre or phone Gerrard 1305.

POSITION WANTED

Operator with long and varied experience, making change desires re-engagement. Knowledge of sound. Apply BOX 21—DIGEST

Quality That You Should Not Overlook!

Motiograph Model H Mechanisms—with the heavy, smooth construction, five inches of light film tension, ball bearing double bearing hardened movement, and the patented rear cylindrical ball bearing shutter that eliminates 62% of the usual heat from the film, parts and lenses, and gives 20% more light.

Motiograph Low Intensity Reflector Arc Lamps—For Motiograph, Simplex or Powers Projectors. Beautifully constructed, perfectly designed, operate with excellent results, with freedom from trouble or repairs. Massive lathe bed type construction, full protection for working parts, full 16" carbon trim, insulated reflector cradle and many other exclusive features. And the price is less than most similar lamps on the market.

Cont-El-Arc Motor Generator Sets, in all sizes to handle any arc amperage. The finest set that money can buy, reasonably priced, and guaranteed to give years of trouble-free satisfaction.

Vocalite Glass Bead Sound Screens, the perfect screen for maximum results on both projection and sound. Materials that last for many years. No rubber or other heavy material to muffle the spoken voice. A clear white surface that gives full color values on colored films. Not expensive to buy.

Ask or write for a copy of our Junior and Senior Sound Equipment Folder, free for the asking. The very finest talking picture equipments for Motiograph, Powers or Simplex, high class apparatus already giving perfect results, at a price that you can afford to pay.

"Courtesy With Service"

THE COLEMAN ELECTRIC Co. - 258 Victoria St. - Toronto, Ont.

Show Business

(*Special to Digest from Ottawa*)

Film exchanges were dealt a low blow when the Ontario Government passed an Order-in-Council providing for an immediate increase in film censorship fees representing a jump of more than three times the previous rate with regard to United States productions.

The new charge is $10 per reel of 1,000 feet or less as compared with $3. The British films are given a preference in the censorship tariff, the rate on English pictures being $7 per reel instead of $3. The higher fees will bring an additional $90,000 to the Ontario treasury during the year.

Thomas S. Daley of Toronto, one of the outstanding men in the managerial ranks of Famous Players Canadian Corp., has arrived in Halifax to supervise arrangements for the opening of the big Capitol Theatre in place of J. F. O'Connell who had been appointed manager of the new house. O'Connell was suddenly taken ill with heart trouble and has been compelled to take a rest.

For years Daley was manager of the Toronto Tivoli and recently took charge of the Toronto Imperial but had been appointed supervisor of advertising and publicity for a group of Toronto theatres. With O'Connell's illness, Daley has been rushed to Halifax to look after the million dollar project.

"Raffles" made a box office record for the Centre Theatre, Ottawa, during the week of September 27, the receipts being the heaviest since the house was wired, and Mike Wilkes, special representative for United Artists, was tickled with the result.

"Whoopee" went into its third week at the Princess Theatre, Montreal, on October 4, on which date Manager Joe Lightstone announced that 130,000 people had seen the Cantor vehicle during the run so far.

It is now the turn of the Canadian Government's chain of 12 radio stations to have a battle with union musicians, the latter having threatened to pull out orchestras and other members from all of the stations if the engagement of non-union players is continued. The Ottawa Musicians Union recently prevented a recital by a violinist to whom they objected. The Federal Department of Labor is investigating the situation and a test case may be arranged.

The prospectus of the Canadian-American Talking Picture Studios, Limited, Chambly Basin, Montreal, promises the following minimum output and profits "in the course of a year:" Six features, net profit per picture of $50,000—$300,000; 24 short subjects, net profit of $5,000 per picture—$120,000, and one serial picture, $75,000; total net profits $495,000.

The capitalization of the company is $1,000,000, divided into 100,000 shares having a par value of $10 each which are offered in units of not less than five shares. Ray Jackson is the managing director of the company. The name of the president is given as Dr. W. I. Whitehead and the vice-president is John Barry, a financial agent of Montreal. The company was formed, it was announced, to produce pictures to qualify under the British quota plan.

A feature made in India, "A Throw of the Dice," registered a commendable run at the Roxy Theatre, Montreal, a house specializing in British releases, when it occupied the screen for four weeks. This has been beaten this year only by the five weeks of "All Quiet on the Western Front" at His Majesty's Theatre, Montreal.

The new version of "Alf's Button" has now started an extended run at the Montreal Roxy and secured good business during its first week.

Two current features have appeared in Ontario under strange names, thanks to the energy of the Ontario Board of Moving Picture Censors, and film fans have been more or less nonplussed. "Call of the Flesh," starring Ramon Novarro, became "The Singer of Seville" while Buster Keaton cavorted under the title of "Forward March" instead of "Dough Boys," the latter not being applicable to Canadian soldiers. But "The Singer of Seville" created a season's record at B. F. Keith's Theatre, Ottawa, title or no.

In the Province of Quebec "Call of the Flesh" continued to be "Call of the Flesh."

The famous Duncan Sisters continued their battling in Ottawa, Ontario, according to local reports, accompanied by Harry, their prize-fighting brother, and 17-year old Johnny, the party stopping incognito at an obscure address. Vivian threatened to brain a local reporter, it was stated, while Harry proved valiant when the scribe wanted to know the why and how.

(*Special to Digest from Winnipeg*)

Walter Davis, who for the past five years has been manager of the Metropolitan Theatre and the Capitol RKO in Winnipeg, in the latter theatre for the past year, has resigned and has gone to Eastern Canada.

Mrs. Davis, who has been treasurer of the Metropolitan Theatre, also has gone east with her husband. For the past few weeks Mrs. Davis has been treasurer of the Winnipeg RKO.

"The Angels" as they were affectionately known to their hosts of friends in Winnipeg, will be greatly missed in a wide circle in Winnipeg. They always kept open house after theatre hours and helped in many ways to make life more congenial and happier. Both Mr. and Mrs. Davis were very faithful in their duties at the theatres, with which they were connected, and by their careful attention to little details and their courtesy and thoughtfullness in the interests of patrons increased largely the patronage at any theatre with which they were connected.

As one who always arranged the banquet programmes at gatherings of Famous Players' Managers from time to time in the West, Mr. Davis' unique and original treatment made them sure-fire successes.

It is understood that Mr. Davis will take medical treatment in the East before again taking over new duties.

Work has started on a new $35,000 theatre which is being built on the Maribne Drive, Vancouver, B.C. E. Greczmiel is the owner, and John Beckwith is the contractor for its construction. It will be two stories in height, 50 by 80 feet, reinforced concrete construction, and has been designed so that it can later be extended from 80 to 135 feet, to double its capacity.

Round About the Studios

Joyce Murray playing in leading roles for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

Ernest Torrence, veteran character actor, has been signed to a new long-term contract by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

Torrence has just returned from a vacation trip to his native Scotland and will begin work at the Culver City studio in the near future.

Among the actor's best-known roles are those in "The Bridge of San Luis Rey," "Twelve Miles Out," "Desert Nights" and Ramon Novarro's recent starring film, "Call of the Flesh."

This week saw the addition of Hobart Bosworth and Roscoe Karns to "Dirigible" Columbia's sensational picturization of the adventures of two "buddies" in the United States Naval Aviation Corps. The picture now on location at San Diego, California is being directed by Frank Capra, and is included in the company's Extended Run Giants. "Dirigible" brings together once again the famous pals of "Submarine," "Flight," and "Hell's Island" namely Jack Holt and Ralph Graves. Fay Wray portrays the feminine lead.

Marjorie Rambeau, brilliant Broadway star, makes her film debut in "Her Man," Pathé's rapid-moving melodrama of the Havana underworld.

Marion Davies' next picture will be "The Bachelor Father," according to announcement from Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

The star returned from Europe about ten days ago and left New York on Saturday, October 4, for the coast, where preparations are now under way for the new film.

"Rosalie," which was originally scheduled as Miss Davies' new starring vehicle, will be made later. "The Bachelor Father" is an adaptation of the New York stage hit of the same name, in which June Walker appeared.

Joel McCrea's performance in the juvenile lead in "Lightnin'" so impressed Fox Films officials that they signed him for the juvenile lead in "Once A Sinner." Guthrie McClintic will direct this adaptation from an original by George Middleton.

Dorothy Mackaill, John Halliday and Robert Warwick will enact other principal roles.

Reginald Denny, his work opposite Grace Moore in "Jenny Lind" completed, has been selected to play with Mary Pickford in "Kiki" for United Artists.

Mr. Denny has recently worked for M-G-M in Miss Moore's film, in DeMille's "Madam Satan" and in Fifi Dorsay's "Those Three French Girls."

The entire cast of "Kiki" will report to director Sam Taylor for official rehearsals that began October 1st. Miss Pickford has been unofficially, informally and enthusiastically rehearsing her role of the French gamin whose antics will be perpetrated against a modern New York background instead of the Parisian setting of the original work.

Billy K. Wells, who wrote the dialogue for "The Cock Eyed World," has completed the dialogue for "The Cohens and Kellys in Africa," from the story by Vin Moore and Edward Luddy. George Sidney and Charlie Murray and the original "Cohens and Kellys" cast will start production of this fifth "Cohens and Kellys" feature under the direction of Vin Moore next week.

Two new pictures, "The Great Meadow" and "The Secret Six," get under way this week at the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studio.

"The Secret Six" is a story of fast-moving adventure among a mysterious big city clique, and will be directed by the man responsible for "The Big House"—George Hill. Wallace Beery, who scored his greatest triumph in "The Big House," has the central role in the new production, while Marjorie Rambeau, prominent New York stage actress, has the chief feminine part. Miss Rambeau recently completed a part in "Dark Star," which George Hill also directed.

Walter Winchell, Mark Hellinger and Damon Runyon, aces of the New York newspaper columnists, appear in Vitaphone Varieties as part of the program featuring Warner Bros. "The Office Wife" at the Winter Garden.

Winchell is featured in "The Band of Broadway," a two reeler by Wallace Sullivan. Hellinger and Runyon appear in a Variety with Jim Corbett and De Wolf Hopper, built around a scene in the Friars Club.

Football thrills are offered in the Pathé series of shorts featuring the noted coach, Knute Rockne and his famous Notre Dame team.

President E. B. Derr has wired the Pathe Home Office that "Her Hero," Daphne Pollard's second starring vehicle under her new contract had just been placed in production under the supervision of Fred Lalley and the direction of Arch Heath.

Monte Carter, director and author of Pathe shorts, wrote the story especially for Miss Pollard and it will be released under the Melody brand. Principals with the star are Lucille Williams, Don Dilloway and Ray Cooke.

Mr. Derr has assigned Hugh Cummings to prepare the third Daphne Pollard vehicle.

After completing "Lightnin'", the Will Rogers starring picture produced by Fox Films, Henry King will direct "The Spider," adapted from the play by Fulton Oursler. Warner Baxter will have the leading role.

As a result of her work in short subjects, June McCloy, formerly of the musical comedy stage, has been given a long term contract by Paramount. Miss McCloy will work at the company's West Coast studios.

Ramon Novarro, ever popular Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer star.

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